



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

## PROGRAM E-SPOTLIGHT

June 16, 2006, Issue 9

### U K R A I N E

#### Deputy Assistant Administrator Visits Ukraine

USAID's Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Europe and Eurasia Bureau Sheryl Grossman visited Ukraine to participate in the Belarus ICAR review, June 7-8. Prior to the interagency review, she traveled to Dnipropetrovsk and Cherkassy to see firsthand several USAID/ Ukraine projects.

In Dnipropetrovsk, Ms. Grossman first visited the Women's Information and Coordination Center, a human rights NGO that works to promote women's leadership, prevention of violence against women and women's empowerment in new economic conditions. She then met with the Dnipropetrovsk Mayor Ivan Kulichenko and participated in a meeting with the City Advisory Committee. There Ms. Grossman received a briefing on implementation of the USAID-supported Municipal Budget Reform program. The USAID official also participated in a press conference to discuss the need to further mobilize HIV/AIDS prevention efforts in the region, organized by the CURE Press Club.



*Sheryl Grossman visited children with HIV/AIDS in the Cherkassy day care center*

In Cherkassy, Ms. Grossman visited two agricultural cooperatives involved in USAID's Agricultural Marketing Program. She also stopped

at a day care center for children with HIV/AIDS, which is run by the People Living with HIV/AIDS Network.

#### USAID Signs Strategic Objective Agreement with Ukraine to Help Fight Corruption

USAID signed a Strategic Objective Agreement with the Ukrainian government at the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine on June 6. The agreement aims to strengthen the rule of law in Ukraine by reforming laws, procedures and practices to increase transparency and impartiality throughout the government.

USAID Mission Director Earl Gast, who signed the agreement with Minister of Justice Serhii Holovatii, explained that the SOAG had a specific character, different from other agreements that USAID has signed with the Ukrainian Government.



*At the signing ceremony*

"Every year we sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Economy on the general directions of our assistance partnership with Ukraine. The Strategic Objective Agreement we are signing here today is different in that it is the first detailed agreement with the Ministry of Justice in the effort to counter corruption and develop rule of law," explained Mr. Gast. "This agreement provides

a basis for closer cooperation, with both governments actively involved in planning, monitoring and approving the activities supported by it.”

### **New Technology to Streamline Business Communication**

The Ukrainian Securities and Stock Market State Commission, in cooperation with USAID Capital Markets Project, conducted a seminar in Kyiv on May 23, 2006, called “Achieving Reporting Efficiency in Financial Sector through XBRL”.



*Gary Linden (second from right) at the seminar opening*

XBRL stands for eXtensible Business Reporting Language. It is a technology for the electronic communication of business and financial data, which is revolutionising business reporting around the world.

“Ukraine faces important decisions at the moment – where to go on information disclosure, how to improve transparency of financial documents. XBRL is an opportunity for Ukraine to move to the forefront of disclosure all over the world” – noted Gary Linden, USAID Director of Office of Economic Growth.

Companies use XBRL to streamline their processes for collecting and reporting financial information. Consumers of financial data, including investors, analysts, financial institutions and regulators, can receive, find, compare and analyse data much more rapidly and efficiently if it is in XBRL format.

### **Municipal Budget Reform in Ukraine Increases Pace**

A group of Ukrainian mayors representing 55 Ukrainian cities that were selected for the USAID-sponsored Municipal Budget Reform project signed Memoranda of Understanding on June 6, committing themselves to budget reform and implementation of program performance budgeting (PPB).

In May 2006 USAID's MBR project chose the 55 cities from 104 applicants as part of its second round of selections. MBR is eventually expected to involve 140 Ukrainian communities. The MBR project is focused on improving local budget management through PPB training and implementation support, and in strengthening municipal budget autonomy through legislative assistance to the Parliament and the Association of Ukrainian Cities. It is also working with Ukraine's Ministry of Finance to provide PPB development and implementation at the national level.

### **Agricultural Marketing Project Provides Support for Purchase of Modern Cooling and Storing Center by Zakarpattya Producers Association Oblast**

On May 25, 2006, the Zakarpattya Producers Association dedicated the first vegetable cold storage center in Zakarpattya featuring the most current cooling equipment.



*Zakarpattya Association members and guests before the new storage facility*

The storage was opened with support from USAID's Agricultural Marketing Project grant program in Ukraine. The new facility will help the members of the Zakarpattya Producers Association to substantially increase their profits by allowing them to provide consistent and stable supplies of high

quality vegetables at attractive prices to wholesale companies and supermarkets in Zakarpattya and other oblasts of Ukraine.

As a result, members of the Zakarpattya Producers Association hope to increase their profits by a minimum of 20% this year and further secure sustainable growth for the joint business. It should also mean new jobs and increased income for local residents.

### **Delivering in Kindness**

Ukraine's Fifth Kanal television station aired the USAID-commissioned documentary, *Delivering in Kindness*, on June 2, as part of a mother and infant health television special. A 30-minute viewer call-in segment followed the broadcast of the film, during which an expert panel consisting of Tamara Irkina, Deputy Director of USAID Maternal and Infant Health Project and Nadia Zhylo, Director of the Ministry of Health's Department of Motherhood and Childhood, addressed issues that viewers raised. The television special opened with an on-air interview with USAID/Ukraine Mission Director Earl Gast.



*USAID MD Earl Gast (left) with television host Ihor Slisarenko (right) during the on-air interview*

Through the MIHP, USAID is supporting the introduction and promotion of evidence-based health care for expecting mothers and their infants in eight oblasts -- Donetsk, Poltava, Zhytomyr, Kirovograd, Volyn, Lviv, Kyiv, Luhansk -- and the Crimea. Services include the provision of counseling, delivery and child care services to HIV-positive pregnant mothers and their children in three sites in Kyiv, Simferopol, and Donetsk.

### **Agrobusiness Celebrates 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Opens Energy Efficient Milk Processing Complex**

More than 100 guests gathered on June 2 in Prokhorivka village, located in Donetsk Oblast, to celebrate Ecoprod's 10th anniversary with the opening of a modern milk-processing complex. Ecoprod, which derives its name from the ecological-safe products it produces, is a successful and profitable agribusiness in eastern Ukraine. In partnership with Western NIS Enterprise Fund (WNISEF), a USAID-supported investment fund, Ecoprod's corporate leadership has radically changed the company's specialization over the last eight years.



*Some of Ecoprod's 2,000 milking cows*

Today the company operates a large agricultural machinery fleet with over 430 pieces; has about 7,500 pigs and over 5,000 cattle, including 2,000 milking cows. It has its own livestock storage facilities, operates an animal fodder plant, a mill, a cereal production shop and a dairy. Currently, the company employs over 1,100 people and cultivates over 12,000 hectare of farmland. During the event, Ecoprod displayed its best breeding species of cattle, pigs, nutrias and geese. Ecoprod's dairy, bakery and cereals, produced using Ecoprod's own milk and grain were also on display.

### **DOCs Meet with Implementing Partners**

The Development Outreach and Communications section of USAID/Ukraine's Program Office held its quarterly meeting for implementing partners on June 13. The DOC section meets with the outreach specialists of USAID's various programs every three months to highlight and coordinate communications and outreach efforts and to share best practices.



During this meeting the DOC team offered insights into effective photography and had the participants exchange ideas and best practices regarding the various communication tools they use.



USAID implementing partners outreach materials

### Upcoming Events

**June 19 - 23**, Prevention of Abandonment of Children Born to HIV+ Mothers Project, Social Work and HIV Certificate Training Program (Module 1), National Kyiv Mohyla Academy, Kyiv.

**June 26**, BIZPRO, National Conference "Intellectual Property as a Key Asset for Economic Development," Kyiv.

**June 26**, U-Media Project, Workshop for press-secretaries and journalists on "Effective cooperation of authorities and media," Kharkiv.

**June 30**, CIPA-Ukraine Project, CAP/CIPA Exams: Managerial Accounting 1, Audit, Kyiv.

**June 30**, U-Media Project, Workshop for press-secretaries and journalists on "Effective cooperation of authorities and media," Sevastopol.

#### USAID Regional Mission for Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus

19 Nizhniy Val Street, 04071 Kyiv, Ukraine  
Tel: (380 44) 537-4600;  
Fax: (380 44) 537-4684  
<http://ukraine.usaid.gov>

## M O L D O V A

### Moldovan Town becomes Pioneer in Pro-Business Reform

The city of Cahul recently implemented *Info Total Prim*, an innovative computer-based system that provides the public free and rapid access to municipal legislation for the public. Using the USAID-sponsored system, entrepreneurs can now simply go to computer stations based at the Mayor's Office or Chamber of Commerce to access local ordinances, planning documents, etc. required for their business. This program is one of the first steps towards e-Government, an approach that USAID seeks to develop in Moldova.



*Info Total Prim system provides free and rapid access to legal acts for the public*

Due to its success in establishing the One-Stop-Shop concept for business registration (another successful USAID/BIZPRO activity) and the Info Total Prim system, Cahul has been nominated as one of the most dynamic localities in Moldova in supporting and facilitating the development of a business-friendly environment.

### Upcoming Events

**June 22 - June 23**, Local Government Reform Project, 11th Quarterly Meeting – Mayors of LGRP Partner Communities, Moldova.

#### USAID Representative Office in Moldova

57/1 Banulescu-Bodoni Street  
ASITO Building, 5th Floor  
Chisinau, Moldova 2005  
Tel: (037322) 20-18-00  
Fax: (037322) 23-72-77  
<http://moldova.usaid.gov>